

M/EP Comments re: Memo fr Chief, GR, to Ch, St/I, 9 Jun 55

From Para 3 of subject memo " From the available ... maps, it would be possible to determine the voltages and approximate alignments of almost all of the high tension lines outside ~~1/4~~ of the Sino-Soviet Bloc, and the voltages and approximate alignments of the majority of the high-tension lines in the Sino-Soviet Bloc. The research, which ~~could~~ be accomplished in a reasonably short period of time,.... "

Comment: The electric power capacity of the Sino-Soviet Bloc and that of the US and other non-Bloc areas has doubled in the past seven to ten years and the transmission systems have expanded at a roughly equivalent rate. It is doubted that the adjective "almost all" could be applied to even the maps of the US, far less other non-bloc areas. Similarly, with the expansion of facilities in the USSR in recent years, it is doubted that the statement "the majority" is applicable. This is particularly true when the large developments in Soviet Central Asia and Siberia are considered.

The words "reasonably ~~short~~" time are seriously questioned in light of the man-hours this Branch has had to spend in establishing the information for only limited areas.